

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03929 032312Z

73

ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

SWF-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

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R 032259Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5118

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3929

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, US, CA

SUBJ: US/CANADIAN MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS

1. AGRICULTURE MINISTER WHELAN WAS QUESTIONED IN HOUSE OF COMMONS NOV 29 REGARDING NOV 27 US/CANADIAN BILATERAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON MEAT IMPORT QUOTAS. WHELAN REPLIED: "OUR OFFICIALS DID MEET WITH THE UNITED STATES OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS OUR QUOTA PROGRAMS AND THE PROGRAMS THEY HAVE. UNTIL THE DISCUSSIONS ARE FINALIZED THERE IS NOT MUCH MORE I CAN SAY. DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING."

2. IN RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION ABOUT POSSIBLE MEASURES TO HELP CANADIAN BEEF AND HOG PRODUCERS WHO FIND SELVES IN DIFFICULTIES, WHELAN SAID: "WE ARE TRYING TO WORK OUT PROGRAMS TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS INDUSTRY DOES NOT SUFFER UNDULY BUT SUCH PLANS HAVE NOT BEEN FINALIZED. WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY GREAT DIFFICULTY FOR THE PORK INDUSTRY IN CANADA, HOWEVER. I MIGHT SAY THAT WE HAVE FOUND A HOME THROUGH FOREIGN AID FOR SOME OF THE BEEF AND WE ARE STILL EXPLORING OTHER FOREIGN AID PROGRAMS AND SALE PROGRAMS IN OTHER COUNTRIES FOR BEEF." JOHNSON

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